

The Reply

An Anti-Suffrage Magazine

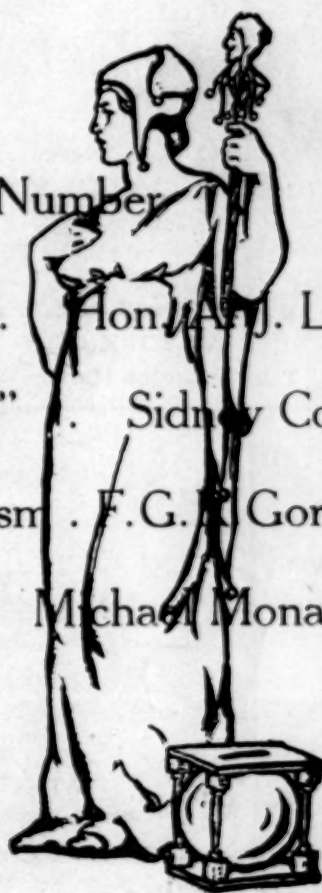
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Contents of this Number

- "Lest We Forget" Hon. A. J. Levy
"These Witches of Free Love" Sidney Coryn
Female Suffragism and Socialism F. G. Gordon
"The American Heril" Michael Monahan



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The Reply

Edited and Published by Helen S. Harman-Brown

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Editorial Notes

That Woman Suffrage is far from a democratic movement is quite evident as the propaganda is more noisily heralded. Money is contributed in large sums, but does this money represent the savings of the working woman—she whom we are so often told “needs the vote to protect herself” from every known evil? The working woman, who has jewels to drop into a melting pot, millions to dispose of by will, or a bank account upon which thousands can be drawn, has not much need of sympathy in her “down trodden state.” Woman Suffrage is showing itself for what it is—a fad of the rich and restless. The Power of Money is struggling to force the vote upon the unwilling and indifferent Majority of the American Women.

John K. Sague, none other than the surveyor of the Port of New York, appears to be the kind of statesman to whom our destinies ought to be entrusted. Mr. Sague told some of the Suffs recently that if they were not permitted to vote, they should not be expected to

obey the laws. He also uses that most ancient of all alleged arguments of the Suffragists to the effect that idiots and criminals are not in a class by themselves, having in fact the company of women.

It seems that the prize suggestions, made in order to win the red velvet needle-book offered by the National Suffrage Association, has been made by Miss Eva Ward. It was the best idea for self-sacrifice day, and it was: “Don’t sacrifice yourself; sacrifice somebody else.”

Here is a high Woman Suffrage authority, Prof. Earl Barnes, saying in the most brazen manner:

“In Idaho as in Colorado the payment of women political workers seems to have become a rather wide-spread abuse. Under the conditions of the state, with many new settlers constantly arriving, it has long been thought necessary to employ paid workers to register voters, get them out on election day and influence those who are uncertain. After 1896

women were often hired to do this work and were paid from three to five dollars a day. With their weak sense of party affiliation it is claimed that they will work for the party that pays best. A candidate with plenty of money may hire so many workers that it becomes a system of wholesale bribery. It is universally conceded that this is an abuse, and that many women look on election service as a source of pin money to a degree that is undesirable."

The following excellent "Reminders" come to us from Boston, and we would lay special emphasis upon their importance to the voter who is weighing this important question of "justice to women":

Remember, that woman suffrage has produced no reform in social conditions, no laws to regulate woman or child labor, no improved corporation legislation, no prison reforms, no health reforms, no purification in politics, no increase in wages, in any of the states that have granted it that has not been equalled or surpassed in man-suffrage states.

Remember, that woman suffrage is only an experiment, and we cannot afford to undertake such an experiment under present conditions.

Remember, that woman suffrage means suffrage for every woman, and not only for your own female relatives, friends and acquaintances.

Remember, that every Socialist and every Feminist is a woman suffragist, and

Remember, that the majority of women do not want the ballot thrust upon them by the fanatical minority!

Female Suffrage would only add to the number of non-taxpaying voting women, and these would be able to pile up the taxes on present tax-paying women, and would probably do it.

Many Suffragists deny that Woman Suffrage means free love, the abolition of marriage, the subjugation of man and

affiliation of Socialism, but those speak only as individuals. The National Suffrage Organization and the National College Equal Suffrage League both publish and circulate the writings of Charlotte Perkins Gilman under such titles as "Motherhood Personal and Social," "The Larger Feminism," "Woman and Economics." Miss Milholland's ultra-radical views, extracts from "The Free Woman," all have received stars of praise, including the editor's approval of them. The writings of Belfort Bax, Karl Marx, William Morris, Alice Hyndeman Rhine, Cicely Hamilton, Rheta Childe Dorr, and many other well-known Socialists have been approved and circulated by the National Suffrage Association. Not once has that body gone on record as repudiating the teachings of these writers. Not once has the Woman Suffrage party from platform or through the press denied its sympathy with these beliefs.

The conservative Philadelphia *Ledger* figures out that the six hundred thousand to seven hundred thousand members claimed by the various Suffrage organizations of the country is less than three per cent of the women of voting age.

The views of Dr. Frederick Howe, United States Commissioner of Immigration of the Port of New York, quoted by the *New York Times*, are of vital interest to all who feel the danger to our institution from the enfranchisement of our women. To the question, "Will the war affect us by generally lowering the average of the European aliens coming to us as immigrants?" He is quoted as saying: "It seems to me that that is inevitable. Let us consider the two essentials of a desirable immigrant. The first is moral quality, and the second, physi-

cal fitness." He then shows very clearly that after the war the combatant nations will need their best, as never before, in the supreme effort to rebuild Europe. Naturally, they will find means of retaining the men, as there will be work for all the able-bodied men for years to come.

His first reference to women,—“Millions of families will be broken up, millions of mothers will be overworked and underfed, and pass on the exhaustion to their children, born and unborn,”—gives us a glimpse of the physical effect of the advent of this immigrant woman upon the life of our country. Already in the warring countries women—all honor to them for so bravely assuming the burden that the exigencies of war have forced upon them!—have taken up the work that the men laid down at the call of their country, but thus thrown into “self-supporting labor,” Dr. Howe says of this condition, “I cannot make even a satisfactory guess at its moral effect, but I fear it will have a serious threat upon the family.” Again, “this wreckage of all Europe’s family life will be a serious matter for the whole world,” and “obviously this will directly hurt America. It will react upon future American generations.”

The most striking point made by Dr. Howe is that the horde of women, desperate as a result of their losses, “who have nothing to lose and everything to gain by making some sort of change,” will seek admission to this country, presenting a problem so distressing that they may prove to be very hard to care for and properly assimilate, while undoubtedly these women will enter industry and may seriously affect social and industrial conditions.

These are not the words of an Anti-

Suffragist, arguing the unfitness of the woman immigrant for the responsibilities which the possession of the ballot would force upon her, but a forecast of conditions by an admitted authority. What does this portend for the future of Government in this country? Much has been said for and against the ignorant foreign vote. The Suffragists, comparing the naturalized foreigner with the educated woman of American descent, demand the vote for the latter “in justice to her,” regardless of the fact that even now, as citizenship is conferred upon the foreign born American, the doubly ignorant wife in far off Europe becomes automatically an American citizen. Thus, were Woman Suffrage granted, the ignorant voter would still be as two to one, and the educated American woman would be relatively less powerful for good than she is to-day.

We have, according to Dr. Howe, the certainty that great numbers of ignorant women with “nothing to lose” will come to us. What an asset for the unscrupulous politician, who is fast learning of the ease with the women’s vote is manipulated! As in Europe, women after the war will greatly outnumber men, the influx to this country may very well be great enough to disturb the labor market. It is surely time to look well before putting a weapon into the hands of these untrained hordes, which will place the balance of power on the side of ignorance in one class and emotionalism in our so-called educated class. Even a politician, weighing the value of the increased purchasable vote, will do well to consider the cost.

Mrs. Elizabeth Seaman, known to fame as Nellie Bly, sat barricaded in her house as against the process servers,

cruel minions of the law who could not see why a woman should be treated differently from "mere man." But she was able to telephone to Mrs. Rinehart, speaking at a Suffrage meeting, "For God's sake, Julia, get out and work for votes for us poor women," thus apparently confusing the anxieties of Deity with those of Little Nell.

Mrs. Touret, of Colorado Springs, speaking at a recent Anti-Suffrage meeting at Fitchburg on the many undesirable effects of Suffrage in her state, advised her hearers to cling to what they can do "just as women;" she added: "Righteousness and sympathy cannot be secured by legislation. Massachusetts is a model state and some of the finest things of the west have had their origin here. Don't ever let this state come down from its high place."

"The American home," writes Marie Collins Rooney, "is not the vile place of mere existence depicted by the writer of this letter. It may be poor and scant in luxuries; it may be a humble farmhouse on the hillside in a remote country, or it may be a narrow apartment in a great city, but it is nevertheless the abode of a loving husband and wife and of children who are the joy of their parents and the glory and hope of the Republic."

Virginia has voted for prohibition by a majority of more than 32,000. This is the tenth man-suffrage state to vote itself dry—an example which no woman-suffrage state has copied! Kansas, the only state which has both prohibition and suffrage, went dry before women got the vote.

It ought to be recorded imperishably that the following is the deliberate opin-

ion, in black-faced type, of the New York *Evening Journal*, or at all events of its Socialist editor, Mr. Arthur Brisbane:

Mrs. Pankhurst, who was released from prison recently after starving herself for six days, will be looked upon in future as one of the greatest heroines of the world's history, an intelligent, determined, noble, self-sacrificing leader in a great cause.

The following is taken from the page by Fred Noyes in a New Jersey paper devoted to Woman Suffrage:

"When this year began, according to the Child Labor Bulletin, twenty states possessed laws limiting the work of minors to eight hours a day. Scanning the list, one noted that two-thirds of the Suffrage states had these laws and less than one-third of the non-suffrage states. From this one must infer that mothers with votes can and do protect children from exploitation more effectively than voteless mothers.—Mrs. Anna Cadogan Etz."

The fact about this is that there is not a single state that has a law on the statute books limiting the work of minors to eight hours a day!

A well-known Socialist organ tells its comrades that Socialism is impossible without Woman Suffrage; which is worth thinking over.

We appeal to all voters who would save New York State from petticoat rule to subscribe in bulk for THE REPLY, which we will, at the subscriber's request, send broadcast among all classes of educators and leaders of thought throughout that state. Write for our special offer. We have but one year to reach all the men of the state with our campaign of sanity. Help us by spending what you can to defend the rights of the majority.

"Lest We Forget"

We print the following statement by the Hon. A. J. Levy, before the New York Assembly of 1913 in reference to the proposed Amendment to the Constitution of New York State, in order that all may consider well the privileges that the women of that state would be called upon to forego with its adoption by popular vote:

Mr. Levy: Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The gentleman from New York, Mr. Levy.

Mr. Levy: Mr. Speaker, the other day I stated before this House that the bill as it was first offered when I came into this body was in the same form as it had been for nearly a period of thirty years, or the beginning of the year 1886. I might then have stated, as I do now, that the agitation for woman suffrage in this state dates back to the year 1848 and came about because of the agitation in its behalf in the Mormon states of this Union, where we can readily understand the reason for this agitation. Mr. Cuvillier suggests seven wives.

Any bill that attempts to amend the constitutional or fundamental law of this state must of necessity be adapted by two different legislatures. If this bill is enacted to-night, and if our party remain in control and elect another legislature in 1914, as it doubtless will, this question will be presented to the suffrage of this state as it is now constituted, in the election of 1915 for determination, and it might be well, Mr. Speaker, because of this new effort in Woman Suffrage history making, so far as the legislature is concerned, to say that in the limited time at my command I have searched through the statutes in this state and I find among the great many dis-

criminatory laws in favor of women to the exclusion of men the following:

A married woman holds her separate property, however acquired, entirely free from her husband's control or interference, and not in any way liable for his debts, even though the debts may have been contracted in support of her and the children.

A married woman may sell, assign or transfer her property, real or personal, without the consent of her husband. But a husband cannot sell or devise his real estate unless his wife joins him in the transaction and foregoes her dower right.

A man's widow is endowed with one-third of all the real estate held by him at the time of his death, whether he owned it before marriage or acquired it after marriage, whether he earned it or inherited it. But if he dies in debt, his widow, however wealthy she may be, cannot be required to pay a single dollar of the indebtedness. If his life was insured for her benefit, the proceeds of the policy cannot be taken for any debts either of his or hers—unless the policy is so large that the annual premium has exceeded five hundred dollars.

A married woman may bring a suit at law in her own name (or be sued), and if the suit results in a verdict for her, the proceeds are a part of her separate property. She may also carry on business or enter into business contracts, separately from her husband, without his consent.

A husband has not even a "curtesy right" in the real property of his deceased wife unless a living child has been born to them; and the wife may defeat this right even then by selling or giving away her property or devising it by will.

A husband is required to support his wife and her children—the sons until they are of age and the daughters till they marry—and if he neglects to do so, he is liable for all necessities purchased by her or for any money that she has borrowed to purchase necessities. But no matter how large her estate may be, or what may be his situation or condition, she cannot be required to contribute a single dollar to support him or the children.

If a wife obtains a divorce, the husband is required to pay her alimony as long as she lives, even if she married again. But when a husband obtains a divorce, the wife, however wealthy she may be, is not required to pay anything toward his support. If a wife brings suit for a divorce, the husband must at once pay her lawyer's fee; but if the result of the trial proves that the lawyer was ignorant or dishonest in advising her that she had grounds for such a suit, the husband cannot recover that money.

All the trades and professions are open to women, married or single; and in some particulars the laws are more favorable to them than to men. Thus, a woman cannot be arrested in any civil action—as a man can—unless she has committed a “wilful injury to the person, character or property,” or has been guilty of contempt of court. If she contracts a debt fraudulently, she cannot be arrested for it.

Women enjoy certain exemptions sole sale of their property under execution, which exemptions do not extend to a man unless he is a householder.

A married woman is the joint guardian of her children enjoying equal rights concerning them with her husband, and only the survivor can in any way appoint a guardian. Thus, a husband cannot in

his will say who shall be thereafter joint guardian with his widow.

The statutes contain many provisions for the benefit of women and girls employed in stores and factories.

Mr. Speaker, before this Legislature adjourns, the statute books of this state will have a great number of additional laws assigned for the protection of women and girls in factories, such as are recommended by our Factory Investigation Commission.

If a man owes a female employee fifty dollars or more in wages, and does not pay, not only is his property liable for it, but he may be imprisoned without privilege of bail.

No woman can be called upon for any form of military or police duty, or to assist the fire department in fighting a fire. And no woman can be required to serve on a jury.

I shan't speak of the penal statutes of this state which run to the protection of the female sex as such. I cannot deal with those because they are entirely too numerous for the limited time I have allotted to me at present. I shall refer to them generally when I say, as Mr. Hinman said, that if this is a battle for “equal rights”—and I have heard that term “equal rights” used so often by these ladies,—then I suggest “equal rights” will certainly follow equal suffrage, and when it does I am apprehensive for the womanhood of this state.

Now, what is it that woman can have that is not already provided for by man-made law—and all these laws I have cited have been man-made and made by legislatures in which no woman has thus far sat. What more can they obtain if the right of Suffrage is given to women?

And, Mr. Speaker, in this connection and in respect to “equal rights” gener-

ally, I remind this House that recently in the State of California where "equal rights" were battled for just as forcibly as here, the legislature of California found it necessary, after giving the women the right of Suffrage by law, to abolish the requirement as to statements of ages by women on the poll-lists. The ladies of California were a little embarrassed about the disclosures in respect to ages found upon the poll books of California, so the chivalrous men of the chivalrous legislature—like the chivalrous men in the succeeding legislatures of New York will,—came to their rescue

and protected them against embarrassment and annoyance.

I don't argue now against the adoption of this resolution. I ask you to sustain it, but I insist that this is food for thought in the Suffrage of the state as we find it today. I hope that when the time comes when this resolution shall be submitted to the men voters for determination that they will think of all those discriminatory laws that the ladies about this very circle (indicating Assembly circle to-night don't want because they insist upon "equal suffrage."

IMBECILITY AND PSYCHIC INFANTILISM

In fixing punishment for militancy each militant, Marx the German, says, should be dealt with as an individual, and no wholesale penalties be carried out. Leppmann would not class the Suffragettes indiscriminately as criminals. He would look into the components of imbecility and psychic infantilism. Strassmann classes the Suffragette movement as a "crowd psychosis." Mass believes that no sane woman could die by hunger strike. Marx further believes that the movement is a pathological development of neofeminism.

DO PROPERTY OWNERS WANT SUFFRAGE?

A Woman Suffragist owning a house in one of the largest cities of the Suffrage states paid last year \$225 taxes and about \$75 repairs. As the usual rent is \$300, she would have kept even, except that owing to many vacant houses hers could only be rented three months, making a net loss of \$200 per year. It is said that every one who can is leaving the city on account of taxes and bad government.

Suffrage, in effect there for years, may or may not have caused this. Certainly Suffrage did not prevent it.

F. W.

JUST THIS SIDE OF THE FIRING LINE

The five thousand Suffs of Colorado, who were going to camp in the State Capitol at Denver until the Governor suppressed the strike riots in the coal mines, being determined after that to march to the seat of war, appear to have stopped just this side of the firing line.

QUEER BRIDES THAT SHE HAS MARRIED

"As for the word 'obey,' says Rev. Anna Shaw, "I had only one girl who wanted to make such a crazy promise. In fact, she insisted on it. There was only one thing for me to do—I refused to marry her. She had to go elsewhere to have the ceremony performed."

Thinks Their "Emancipation" Deteriorates Woman

"Women are fast deteriorating physically owing to the exaggerated efforts, particularly the intellectual efforts, which they are making toward what they call their emancipation."

This warning, according to the *New York Times*, is given in an article in *The Medical Bulletin* by Dr. Louis Brocq. He says:

"During the thirty years that I have been in practice I have witnessed a gradual alteration in the physical characteristics of the young women who come to consult me. Their figures have become deformed, their shoulders have taken on a stoop, their chests have become hollowed more often than formerly, and the face is either wan or unhealthily puffy.

"I do not think that excessive brain work is the sole cause of this change, but believe it has contributed in a very great degree to the development of the natural disposition toward such conditions.

"What must they do? Women should

be moderate in their work, should never reduce their hours of sleep, should do rational gymnastics or exercises every morning, and afterward walk for an hour or two in the open air and regulate their diet on hygienic principles."

Another view of the same matter is presented by Dr. Bouchet, who lays down the principle that the standard of health, which he regards as the same thing as beauty, is the test of perfection of individual development.

According to this authority, married women have a greater chance of attaining beauty than their celibate sisters. He says:

"The fundamental function of woman is maternity. Pinard used to say to women, 'Have at least three children if you want to be beautiful.' Woman, being by her constitution intended for maternity, cannot devote herself with impunity to intensive intellectual work."

Absent or Not Voting

Since statehood the women of North Dakota have had the educational franchise, which enables them to vote for state and county superintendent of schools. The vast majority of female citizens have faith in the integrity of their husbands, fathers, brothers and sons, however, and do not use nor want even this franchise. On June 24th last, at the primaries, the

men and women of the state voted for these two offices. As an example of the interest taken by women, 31 of them voted in Cass County where 3,598 men went to the polls. In Fargo, the largest city in the state, only 20 women voted. County Auditor Addison Leech is authority for these figures.

It seems like the psychological moment for the new Feminist Jefferson to write a still later edition of the Suffragist Declaration of Independence.

Undoubtedly, Newport society is as good a group as any other in which to raise a little matter of ten thousand dollars a day for the Suffragist cause.

Socialist-Suffrage Cause; Fact vs. Theory

By F. G. R. Gordon

Suffragists would like us to imagine that Socialism is one movement and Woman Suffrage another, and that neither is related to the other. The fact of the matter is that they are one and the same general radical movement. The Socialists want Suffrage because they know that it would double their vote and more than double the party membership, and thus double the dues and the financial power of the Socialist Party for propaganda purposes.

Socialist women are more fanatical than Socialist men. They work harder for the Socialist revolution and they will sacrifice more. Women in general are far more emotional than men, and therefore more readily become converts to the Socialist cause or any other wild movement. No honest thoughtful woman will deny this, and because this is true we see the very great danger of the ballot in the hands of women.

The Suffragists may turn about and tell us that in those states where Woman Suffrage has existed longest they have not been different from the men. Well, if this is true, then there is absolutely nothing to Woman Suffrage; and it can be of no benefit to anyone, and would simply double the vote and greatly increase the cost of elections and largely increase the cost of government, and productive wealth producers will have to pay the bills.

On the other hand the women in the great industrial states have not had the vote. The working class women, the

naturally radical part of the female population, have not had a chance to vote as yet. In Socialist inner circles they tell us that Woman Suffrage will work wonders for the Socialist cause, and they are undoubtedly correct. And what can woman demand except the radical program? On conservative lines we are marching onward as rapidly as the times and the economic conditions warrant. It follows that there is nothing under the sun that Woman Suffrage can add to the cause of humanity except the Socialistic program. There is not another blessed thing that they can stand for outside of Socialism.

In theory the Woman Suffragists think and say that they will work wonders for the uplift of humanity; but this is just what every wild citizen always claims. They have not done this in any state or nation where they have the vote, but they have greatly aided the radical and Socialist cause. Those who oppose Woman Suffrage because of the inherent difference between the sexes must, however, recognize the enormous power for evil that Woman Suffrage will make possible and probable along Socialistic lines.

If with Woman Suffrage 70 or 80 per cent should vote, they would be a tremendous danger and a constantly increasing danger; if, on the other hand, the women neglect to vote in the primaries, as they have done recently in Illinois, where only 10 per cent or less voted, and if they also neglect to vote in the regular elections, then the whole thing is a farce, and the sooner we recognize this the better for the women and the whole country.

Mrs. Blatch has appeared lately to have been neglecting her sad duty of mothering Mayor Mitchell.

There is a rumor current that Miss Alberta Hill intends to be the Suffragist Queen of the May.

Women, Women—Ballots and War

A press report from Washington, writes Annie Riley Hale, advises us that Mrs. Catt, assisted by Mme. Schwimmer, an Austro-Hungarian lady, presented a petition from the "International Suffrage Alliance" to President Wilson to take immediate steps for ending the European war! Their patronizing suggestion that we "allow no diplomatic conventions to stand in the way of the most expeditious means of securing mediation," must have amused the President, even while he expressed much annoyance at this and other similar proceedings.

The incident gives occasion for the repetition of wholesome truth in regard to woman's connection with war, and the Suffragist view that the woman-ballot is to usher in the millennial dawn of universal peace! Virgil was probably guilty of ungallant exaggeration in describing woman as "*causa omnis belli*" in the strict sense, but it may be said with perfect truth that all the wars of the past have lived either by the favor of woman or because of her failure to prevent them.

Suppose the mothers and teachers of the past thousand years had instilled into the minds of youth—from the strutting, small boy period upward—not alone the horror and cruelty but the utter futility of war—its ghastly ludicrousness; had taught them that it was more honorable to live for the country than to die for the

country, and especially had so trained them to noble and useful manhood that their lives would be more valuable than their deaths to the nation; does anybody believe that we should have the present frightful carnage in Europe?

Instead of this rational gospel of peace, what has been the teaching? The child's imagination has been fired with hero-worship for the daring on the battlefield, his mind steeped in love and adoration of brute force. If war is ever to be relegated to the limbo of other barbarous things, this can only be achieved by the earliest moulders of youthful opinion—the mothers.

Meantime, in the countries now at war, what do we see or hear? Of English and French women offering to relieve men of their peaceful jobs as chauffeurs, conductors, etc., in order to send them to the front, and an American singer who returned recently from Berlin relates that such is the warlike spirit of the German women, she believes if the men were to abandon the Kaiser's cause, the women would rally to his standard!

And yet the Suffragists would persuade us that the woman-ballot would abolish war! It is the peculiar Suffrage obsession that the woman-ballot could do what woman herself—with far better opportunities than anybody ever has through a ballot—has failed to do.

Miss Alice Paul of New Jersey and Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont of New York (Long Island and Newport) have again been described as the big guns in the Suffragist campaign. Great bores, instead of small bores, possibly.

It seems very mean of "Old Subscriber" to write us that "the present vociferous obscurity of Mrs. Milholland Boissvain must indicate that that gentle lady is 'off her feed,' which has been 'oats for women' for so long a time."

Feminism

By Sidney Coryn

DURING the last few months we have become unpleasantly aware that the suffrage movement is slowly merging into something far larger, something that is beginning vaguely to be known as feminism. With that fatal proclivity to laugh at tragedies and to reserve our tears for comedies the new movement has been received with glee by our humorists and with a slightly interested silence elsewhere. The only passports to public attention nowadays are a dollar and a laugh. Nothing else matters, and so we are hearing more and more about feminism, but without any distinct disposition to applaud or to condemn. Ten years ago we were told from a thousand platforms that the coping-stone of feminine ambitions was the vote. Today we find that the vote is a mere triviality, useful enough as a means, but insignificant in comparison with larger issues. Miss Jane Addams, writing in the *Ladies' Home Journal*, says: "Suffrage is a simple thing—merely putting a piece of paper in a ballot-box." Later on, speaking before a congressional committee, she said: "The franchise is only a little piece of mechanism which enables the voter to say how much money shall be appropriated from the taxes of which women pay so large a part." It was a staggering view for those accustomed to look upon the conduct of human affairs as a somewhat difficult art and involving an incaluable aggregate of weal and woe. It was disconcerting for those who supposed that the science of government consisted of something more than voting money. But it marked

a new departure, and the new departure is feminism.

Feminism has lately found various American exponents, and since they nearly all agree that it implies a freedom from sex restraints we may suppose that this is actually what it does mean. Three of these exponents are now occupying the public stage, and although their utterances are much curtailed in the process of transmission we may suppose that the reports are reasonably accurate and representative. At least they have not been denied nor corrected. First we have Jane Olcott, who says: "A man or woman should be free to give love wherever it is natural. Love is volatile, and when it goes I believe it is unmoral for man and wife even to appear to live together except for the sake of their children. In that case each should be free to bestow love elsewhere by mutual agreement." Now it would be interesting to ask this lady to define her terms. What does she mean by love? Does she mean the ordinary sexual attraction that goes by that name? In that case it will certainly prove to be volatile as soon as it is satiated. And what does she mean by natural? Does she intend to say that all natural impulses should be gratified? In that case it would be unsafe for any woman, or man either, to appear on the streets without a guard. If the word natural has now any definite meaning—which it has not—it must be applied to all acts that are instinctual or habitual among those unrestrained by civilization or religion. All the appetites, even the

grossest among them, are natural. If civilization is capable of a precise definition it might be said to consist of the restraint of natural appetites, of the not doing of things that are natural to us to do. The new social idea, according to Jane Olcott, is a condition in which men and women do whatever is natural to them, irrespective of the misery they may inflict upon others, no matter how offensive to others their actions may be. The new system, according to Jane Olcott, would resemble nothing so much as a poultry yard, or a hutch of rabbits, where sex relationships are governed wholly by nature. Under such circumstances it would seem that the chief difficulty with regard to the children would be to determine their paternity.

The next feminine exponent is Mrs. Florence Wise, secretary of the New Woman's Trade Union League of New York. There are many people, says Mrs. Wise believes "only in voluntary motherhood." Now those of us who have the misfortune to be men will probably feel that instinctual diffidence in speaking of delicate matters of which the feminist seems wholly to have rid herself. But I was under the impression that motherhood was already voluntary, and that the whole agitation against race suicide was based on the fact that women may determine whether or not they will be mothers and that they so often decide not to be mothers. But what does Mrs. Wise want? Does she want a law to regulate this matter, and if so, Mrs. Wise, who are not fit to be parents, and this is obviously and lamentably true. On the other hand, she continues, "many unmarried women want children and there ought to be some opportunity for the expression of their innate mother

love." Once more, what does Mrs. Wise want? Surely she does not demand the appointment or election of official or state fathers? The penalties were not invented by men, but by women. They exist only by the will of women. The furnace seven times heated that is reserved for the unmarried mother is tended and stoked by women. Never by men. Men are invariably compassionate in such matters. Women are never compassionate here. If Mrs. Wise wishes to ameliorate the lot of the unmarried mother she has only to persuade her sisters to dilute the extraordinary venom and cruelty with which they now pursue the "offender." But you will notice that Jane Olcott and Florence Wise are diametrically opposed to each other except on the general principle that women ought to be able to do whatever they want to do. Jane Olcott puts love first as the only possible justification for the children, and Florence Wise puts the children first. The woman who wants to have children, she says, is entitled to have them, even though she may not love their father. Once more we are reminded astonishingly of the cattle pen and the poultry yard, where the beautiful laws of nature are so beautifully unrestrained.

The third on the list is Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Gilman, who was always sane and helpful until she got the bee of leadership in her bonnet, when she became at once coarse and repulsive. Mrs. Gilman says that women "believe their duty to be far outside of merely being mothers." Now Mrs. Gilman is right. Their duty includes not merely being mothers, but being good mothers. "Even a kitten," says Mrs. Gilman, "could be a mother." In this connection

I have a copy of the *Forerunner* before me, in which Mrs. Gilman writes an article on "The Model Home." It is a home supplied with food from the Food Supply Company, and it comes in underground tubes, like the drains, but let that pass. Mrs. Gilman tells us that in this home the woman "would have as much to do as the man—no more." So we turn with curiosity to another page to ascertain the fate of the wretched little children. Where would they be in the home in which the woman had no more to do than the man? Mrs. Gilman tells us they would be "asleep in their rooms or awake in the common rooms or the garden." But who is to feed these children while they are infants, since the woman is to have "as much to do as the man—no more?" Are they also to be fed from the underground tubes? Now an infant, if I remember right, must be fed every two or three hours and even oftener, day and night, and if it is to be a healthy infant it ought to be fed in a particular way, and it is a way in which the father has not been qualified by nature to assist. No doubt that little matter may be put right by some future legislature, but in the meantime it remains a fact that the young baby can not be fed except by the mother, who is to have no more to do in the house than her husband. So what actually does Mrs. Gilman mean? Does she mean anything? Or is she merely silly? Why does she pretend that her "model home" with infants in it can be run by the equal labor of mother and father, when she knows that nature has otherwise ordained and that no young baby can live without continuous feminine care? Is she addressing herself to the weak-

minded as well as to the vulgar? It would seem so.

There is still another feminist on the list. Dr. Annie Yates said recently on the public platform that the determination and control of sex had either been already achieved or was about to be achieved. "When this doctrine becomes generally known," she said, "women can bear only girl babies." This does not appear to have been meant as a joke. It was just feminism. It was also a rank and unclean form of idiocy, and one is inclined to commiserate with the patients of this unpleasant woman.

Now one is inclined to wonder what women in general are thinking of this sort of thing. They are curiously silent about it all. Do they sympathize with this shrill scream of contempt for matrimony and motherhood? Do they really want the establishment of free love, which would of course be free love for the man as well as for the woman? Do they look forward to the day when men may discard their wives and wives may discard their husbands on the chance discovery that they "love" some one else? Are they willing to believe that the having of children is in some way a badge of servitude, and that the labor and toil involved in the care of children is something that must be jealously divided into halves like a job on the rockpile? Do they think that Mrs. Gilman's model home, where every one is fed through a tube and where new-born babies are cared for by the husband, would be a nice place to live? For it may be noted that a scarcely veiled contempt for motherhood runs all through these abominable utterances. It

must be so. Free love, or what one hypocritical lady calls the freedom of love, is incompatible with motherhood. The child intervenes all the time. The mother of the young baby can not earn her own living out in "the world." The wages that support her and her child must be earned by some one else. She can not be a stenographer or a lawyer or a doctor and at the same time care for that child. And because motherhood is an absolute bar to "financial independence"—whatever that may mean—motherhood has to go. Motherhood is already going. We all know that, and decadence is taking its place.

It is hard to believe that these witches of the free love and feminist platform are actually enlisting the sympathy of women in general or even that women in general are appreciating the purport of their teachings. And yet there seems to be no protest against a movement that regards the individual as the unit instead of the family. And there is no hope for a civilization that slights or discourages the family. A nation is rich and prosperous in precise proportion to the number and the solidity of its families. It is happy in proportion to the harmony of the family.

How Melinda Misses It

Miss Melinda Scott, president of the Woman's Trade Union League of New York City, says in an appeal to the working women:

"The ballot is needed to make good laws.

"The ballot is needed to enforce the laws.

"The ballot is needed to put men into office who will work for our interests as workers."

Miss Melinda ought to emigrate to Colorado. That is the place where the women have voted for twenty years and more, and that is the state where the organized workingmen claim that the laws are not

enforced, and that there are few labor laws anyway. Miss Melinda has missed her calling. She should go to Trinidad, Colorado, and with the other Women Suffragists do a little enforcing of the law; or, is it because the laws were enforced in that part of that Woman Suffrage state that organized labor of both sexes are making so bitter complaints?

And Miss Melinda, if you waste your time in Gotham, while your comrades suffer in that ideal Woman Suffrage State of Colorado, shall we call it cowardice or neglect of duty?

Forbidden Suffragist Subjects

Silas Tuttle asks, through the columns of the *New York Times*, why the Suffragist leaders should not give us some practical illustration of their qualification, as, for instance, remarks upon the tariff, upon the Mexican situation, upon the po-

litical situation in the city, state, or nation, that we may judge of their ability to cope with the questions that the men are to-day handling?

Too hard, Mr. Tuttle. Please make it a little easier next time.

Suffragists and the Liquor Interests

The reason alleged for approving Woman Suffrage—that, given the vote, woman will drive out the saloon—is not heard with the confidence which it formerly received. That this argument, in favor of forcing upon the majority the will of less than 10 per cent of our sex, should be laid on the shelf is evidently good Suffrage politics in view of the following statements by leading Suffragists:

Mrs. Crystal Eastman Benedict, in Wisconsin: "The brewers in Wisconsin gave us, so far as we know, a perfectly fair deal."

The Michigan Equal Suffrage Association: "Our Association has no connection with the W. C. T. U., and we are not responsible for what the W. C. T. U. says or does. The temperance issue has nothing to do with Woman Suffrage."

The Nevada Equal Suffrage Society, official statement, declares that it has "no quarrel with the existing order of things, saloon or otherwise," that "some of the men interested in the saloon business have shown us not only the greatest courtesy, but have helped us in various ways;" also "if the persons who circulated these stories will look up the history of the states which have given women the ballot, we think they will find they are not any 'drier' than they were before. Utah and Colorado, where women have voted for

years, are not prohibition states. San Francisco voted on the liquor question last year, after women were admitted to the polls, and went 'wet' by a large majority. We could cite many more examples if we had time and space. All we ask is the truth. Give us a square deal."

Miss Elizabeth Hauser, state organizer for Ohio: "There is no alliance between the Ohio Woman Suffrage Association and the Anti-Saloon League."

Dr. Anna Shaw disclaims in a widely circulated statement all connection between Suffrage and the effort to drive out the saloon: "The Suffrage associations of the United States have never taken any stand upon the question of government control of the liquor traffic."

Judge Ben Lindsey, in the *Boston Post*: "Here is another point in which men are mistaken. They believe, most of them down in their hearts, that women would at once close up the saloons. That is absolutely disproved by what has happened in Colorado. Colorado is a wet state, and Denver is a decidedly wet city. The 'wets' won in Colorado last year with women voting. Women—good women—got out and worked for the 'wets.' Thus you have Colorado with equal suffrage going wet by 50,000, while West Virginia, where the women can't vote, goes dry by 100,000."

The New York *World* asks if there isn't cause for serious reflection in the accumulating evidence of a disposition among Women Suffragists to use the vote for purposes of sex reprisal.

Very likely.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, the English militant, has arrived upon our shores, she says, "to open her mouth." In the opinion of the *Evening Sun* there will be people who will flock to see it!

Right!

Mrs. Sanger, Socialist and Suffragist

The arrest of Mrs. Margaret Sanger, editor of the *Woman Rebel*, on the charge of publishing obscene and incendiary literature, is another indictment of Socialism. For years Mrs. Sanger has been known as a prominent Socialist propagandist. For example, Mrs. Sanger editorially eulogizes Saron, Berg and Hanson, the youths killed by the explosion of a bomb which they are supposed to have made for use in Tarrytown.

"Even if dynamite were to serve no other purpose than to bring forth the spirit of revolutionary solidarity and loyalty," Mrs. Sanger says, "it would prove its great value."

In an accompanying article entitled "A Defence of Assassination" Herbert A.

Thorne declares that under some conditions assassination is a high expression of the assassin's outraged nature.

"Boycott, sabotage and assassination," the author holds, "are the weapons at the disposal of the working class in its fight against the better educated and privileged classes."

The *Woman Rebel* was stopped recently by the postal authorities. It claims for women the right to be unmarried mothers. It advocates scientific methods of decreasing the birth rate and promises articles of instruction on this point in future issues.

And all that we need to add is that the editor of the *Woman Rebel* is an enthusiastic Suffragist.

That's all, and that's enough.

Women to End Child Labor, Eh?

A Woman Suffragist by the name of Rose Winslow of New York made a speech the other day in Paterson and declared that when women vote they will enter the labor unions and that they will put an end to child labor. The statement is a dishonest one, for the lecturer knows very well that the women won't do anything of the sort, for they haven't done so in the states and in the nations where they now have the vote. Moreover, if these suffragists are refusing to join the unions merely because they do not have

the vote, then they are most miserable traitors to the unions. It might be asked if the women have joined the unions in Colorado? Have they joined the unions in the other suffrage states? They have not, and the suffragists know this. Yet some of them have the dishonesty to get upon the soap-box or the public platform and tell the working class that if they will only give them equal political rights with the men, such evils as child labor will be cured.

F. G. R. GORDON.

Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Gilman seems less prominent than formerly as the Chaperone General of the Suffragists' organizations.

Winter is approaching, and it is expected that parading Suffragists will keep off the grass rather more than formerly.

"The American Peril"

By Michael Monahan

As a people we are suffering from too much *womanism*. It is become our besetting weakness and it may be that we are degenerating from this cause. Certainly it has made us ridiculous to ourselves and a laughing-stock to foreign people. But this is not all. Admiral Chadwick, a wise man and a courageous, asserts that by dint of intrusting our youth almost wholly to the training of women, we are preparing the way for a nation of mollycoddles. And not all the Jane Addamses and Ida Tarbells in the country can save us!

The Admiral speaks by the book and puts a sure finger on the disease. He says justly that no people in the world have put themselves at such a disadvantage as we in the education of our male youth. Virtually we propose a frock or a split skirt to our boys instead of the *toga virilis*. In other words, we abandon our children in the crucial, formative years to weakness, hysteria, inferiority and incompetence (a few women of uncommon, that is to say, masculine, attributes do not change the rule). As a necessary result, we are producing a generation of feminized men ("sissies" in the dialect of real boys) who will be fit only to escort women to poll or public office and to render such other puppy attentions as may be demanded by the Superior Sex! This process of emasculation is now visibly at work.

Schopenhauer is regarded as a bilious philosopher on account of his *Metaphysics of Love*, in which he with ruthless hand tore away all the illusions from that beclouded theme. But he was a prophet as well as a philosopher, for he

foresaw the day when men would be driven to make actual war upon women in order to keep them in their place. Europe shook its head when the Wise Man of Frankfort uttered this strange vaticination and thought of him as most noble Festus did of Paul, that overmuch learning had made him mad—but have we not seen his word almost literally fulfilled? . . . And who shall say worse is not to come?

The position of woman in America is, to quote the newspapers, the "most remarkable phenomenon of our time." Nowhere in the world does she enjoy so much privilege and respect and consideration, owing merely to her sex, and nowhere does she exert so much influence in public affairs. She is the arbiter of the social realm. Her voice is all-potent in the making of laws for nation and state—I doubt if the suffrage itself would give her a much greater share of *real* power than she now possesses.

I therefore offer this proposition, which will startle a good many unreflecting persons:

We, the American people, are now to all intents and purposes living under a Gynarchy and the symbol of government is a Powder-puff!

You laugh, yes? Well, wait and see if there will follow any reform along the lines suggested by Admiral Chadwick. Just wait until the army of feminists unmask and train their batteries upon the poor man—he will not feel exactly like Dewey at Manila!

The "most remarkable phenomenon," etc., is simple enough when you look at it in the right way. New York City offers unequalled advantages for study-

ing it. It is the most feminized of the great cities of the world and therefore the flightiest, the most irrational and the least given to serious things. It lives for the day without thought of the morrow. It will presently have lost the tradition of great men. By way of compensation, it is developing an epicene type which unites the weakness of both sexes—a sort of man-woman conspicuous in all foolish and febrile agitations (eugenics, prohibition, female suffrage, etc.).

Whence comes all this? I think mainly through the enlistment of women in journalism, magazine work and other avocations of the sort. The American woman could not stand the strong wine of publicity; she was made drunken therewith, and her sickness is upon us. And yet, in the beginning at least, she was a passive agent in the hands of men. She has been exploited by crafty publishers, by faddists, by fanatics and other advance agents of the Millennium. It would task the skill and patience of a Balzac to expose the ramifications, the wheels within wheels, the plots and counter-plots, and the various complexities of the *real* woman's question.

Take, for example, the relation of women to journalism. What chiefly makes the success and popularity of the Pulitzer and Hearst newspapers?

The support of women who, as a rule, read little or nothing else. To secure this, a peculiar species of journalism has been created by women writers, generally silly and mediocre, but on occasion shameless and prurient. There is scarcely an instance of real literary ability among these female journalists: they are selected merely for a knack of scribbling about the invariable round of petty things which occupy the female mind, especially the all-absorbing sub-

ject of Love and the inexhaustible theme of personal Beauty. These ladies may be called the Rice-powder Squad of the journalistic army, and their special function is to impart a sexual thrill to the department under their charge.

From time to time they are called upon to treat various aspects of the Sex Question so dear to New York women, and of such discussions it need only be said that they do not err on the side of modesty and restraint. Very noteworthy is it that the employment of women writers in such degree has not tended to purify the press, but quite the contrary. Needless to point out that the great popular newspapers of New York to-day arrogate a license in dealing with sexual themes which would not have been tolerated in the last generation. An obvious attempt is made to season the whole journalistic ragout with those condiments of sex which the readers of the popular penny sheets have been trained to like and expect. Much of this subtle indecency is the work of women—it is, alas, a province in which they excel the cruder faculties of men. The appearance of a woman, a young woman, in the news in connection with some scandal, or divorce, or crime of passion brings at once the entire battery of this mephitic journalism into play. She is variously posed and photographed and, as it were, undressed for the public. Her physical attractions are described and her "points" enumerated with the mincing libidinous touch of the female journalist. All the foul crew who besiege her in the name of the press report their sensations to the public, which is thus prostituted in turn. It is clear from all this that the first honors of yellow journalism fell to Sir Pandar of Troy.

Worthy journalism in New York has suffered and deteriorated from the suc-

cess of the noxious article, which has been made possible largely by the immense immigration from Eastern Europe during the past twenty years. The taste is indeed rather Eurasian than American. That there has been a lowering of standards and a decline of true journalistic power cannot be disputed, and it seems closely related to the rise of women to influence in this field. With virility, the tradition of good writing and the legend of personal greatness have departed from the press:—it is to be feared that the present-day united bunch of editorial manikins would find the chair of Dana or of Greeley a world too wide for them. The press is eunuch and emasculate, given over to women's twaddle and the cultivation of women's peculiar concern, snobbery; filled with the undesired pictures of simpering female climbers or alleged aristocrats, and enlivened with the appetizing chronicle of the Four Hundred.

New York owes, in large degree, this emasculation and degradation of her press, once notable for its genius and authority, to the influence of women. The epicene editor will deny it in falsetto, and the hermaphrodite publisher wax hot under his 14½-inch collar; but honest men know that I speak the mere truth.

The increasing dominance of women which bodes ill to this Republic (as Admiral Chadwick has bravely pointed

out) is actually conditioned in and by the sort of publicity which I have described. The Hearsts and the Pulitzers and the Boks, *et id genus omne*, with their constant and exaggerated catering to women, their flattering of women, and putting forward of women, and exploiting of women in every imaginable way for their own selfish profit, have brought this peril of petticoat supremacy and petticoat inferiority to our doors. They have emasculated and at the same time corrupted our newspapers. They have almost succeeded in turning our theatre into a brothel, from that indecent boldness and perverted curiosity which the advanced female now takes to be a sign of her emancipation. They have held up to our admiration, as literary artists, women for whom there is an aching need in the laundry or the kitchen. They have fulsomely extolled and headlined and puffed and paragraphed the spotlight-hunting suffragette, very libel as she is upon America's young womanhood. They have labored to bring about a so-called equality of the sexes, which is rather a monstrous inversion, robbing woman of her essential flower and charm. Give them a little more time and rope, and they may succeed in actualizing the nightmare vision of Schopenhauer—men rising to crush with horrible slaughter an attempt of women to dominate the race!

Meantime, please recall the recent statement of a visiting Englishman to the effect that "by allowing ourselves (the Englishmen) to be victimized by a singularly vulgar gang of criminals (militant Suffs) we are the laughing stock of the civilized world."

Miss Katharine Dreier is right about one thing, even though it may never happen again. She says:

For a woman who is happily and truly married there need be no fight for economic independence. The average high-minded man will give his wife her rights.

Wild Mustard

By William Jasper Nicholls

Wild Mustard, the weed that chokes,—this is a symbol of the poisonous effect that, in the opinion of the author, the woman's movement is having upon the present crop of healthy womanhood.

A girl, a man, a loveable father and his charming wife, are the characters over whom the Suffrage agitation hovers for a time, but from under the shadow of whose wings they all in time emerge.

In the development of the tale, however, there are many excellently well-drawn types, whose varying devotion to "the cause" is depicted most accurately according to their differing social standings.

The author, if somewhat too bitter against society as spelt with a capital S, has brought out most clinching arguments against Woman Suffrage; as, for example, when he hits at the root of cheap labor:

"Why did you strike?" inquires Daddy (the father of the heroine to an unemployed man).

"Women," replies the striker.

"Women?" repeated Daddy. "What had women to do with it?"

"Well, the boss, he got up a machine—a loom—that women could work, and along come the women, lots of 'em, and works the looms for less wages than us men could work for, and so we struck work; there wasn't barely a living in it before the women came along with their cheap labor, and now it's just slow starvation, that's what it is, if I say it myself."

"Women, women," said Daddy reflectively, "over-worked and under-paid women;

women trying to get men's jobs and clamoring for men's wages for inferior work; women neglecting and forgetting their primary duty of bearing children."

And anent the eternal claim for equality, one reads on page 183:

And anent the eternal claim for equality, one reads on page 183:

"But where would such progress lead us?"

* * * "Do you think that women should serve on juries, work in primaries, shouting and brawling in political campaigns; making stump speeches for her own election to some political job, hanging around the polls on election day?"

"Oh, they say that the men can do all that dirty work; all they want is just a nice, lady-like vote on election day, just the matter of a few minutes once or twice every three or four years."

"Then they admit at once they are not man's equal; for if women demand the vote, then women must do the dirty work, as you call it, just the same as men; in other words, they admit the fact that men and women do have different functions to perform for the state."

Wild Mustard is a charming tale and dwells divertingly upon a theme that can, until the end of time, have but one conclusion; namely, let woman struggle, as she may, to escape her sphere, Nature will draw her back into it as certainly as one day Death will claim her.

And when she has at last returned, after the impotent struggle has ceased, her men folk will do well to heed the wisdom of Daddy when he advises his future son-in-law:

"You will do well to forget it. With women, one must always forget."

Without the vote working women have obtained protective laws which men with the vote have never secured and never will secure for themselves. There are gallantry and justice left in the world.

A *Sun* correspondent urges that Upton Sinclair and the rampant Suffragists be treated to a boycott by the newspapers, whereupon, not having a place in the sun, they would quickly give it up.

Shall We See the Curse of Militancy

Are we to soon witness a criminal propaganda in this country for woman suffrage? Here and there we find American suffragists defending the cause of their militant sisters in England.

Dr. E. Helen Knight, a socialist-suffragist, defends the cause of the English suffragettes in a recent issue of the *Daily Call*, socialist organ, and she asks how much longer will the public stand for such editorials as the *New York Times* publishes. What she means is how much longer will "we," the American suffragists, stand, to have "our" sisters in England criticized and denounced. That is the meaning of what this American socialist-suffragist says. She alludes to Sylvia Pankhurst, Mrs. Pankhurst, and Beatrice Harriden as the finest types of "womanhood" and she adds: "To them the destruction of a few buildings or pictures or chairs mean little compared with the continued subjection of

their sex." Then she denounces the men of England because they try to protect themselves from these criminal suffragettes. And Dr. Knight's is not the only evidence of sympathy and support that the American suffragists give to their English cousins.

In the first place not a single American suffragist has denounced the criminal English propagandists, not one. More and more signs are not wanting to indicate that before very long we will witness on this side of the Atlantic the same kind of a propaganda that has been going on in England. When the suffragists are defeated in such states as New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts (all of New England, in fact), Pennsylvania, and Ohio, etc., we may look for some militancy here, but it will be short lived. The American public will not stand what the English public has stood.

F. G. R. G.

Where Women Are for War

A lot of foolish men and women are just now singing this song: "If women had the ballot there would be no war."

Let's see:

In both New Zealand and Australia the women do have the ballot, and they have had it for many years. Both of those countries are a part of the British Empire, and in no part of the British Empire are the people more enthusiastic for the war than in those two countries.

Both men and women are organized to help England "lick" Germany.

So, too, we find, that the women of Belgium and other nations now involved in war are not doing anything to prevent war; they are doing all in their power to aid their respective countries in the conduct of the war.

All of which shows how the Suffragists, not having any arguments, resort to buncombe.

"Why do men strut?" asks a Mrs. Beard, wife of a professor at Columbia. They don't any longer; they don't dare.

Perhaps the shortest cut to universal female Suffrage would be to spread the Mormon variety out over the country.

PROPER AND IMPROPER MOTHERING

"We do not need women," says Grace Duffield Goodwin in *Fact vs. Theory*, "to mother the government. We do not need to see the 'mother spirit' in the supreme court. We need mothers where mothering counts—in personal contact with the lives of individual children. This is being made a matter of legislation when it should be parental control and parental love. We need better fathers and mothers, better homes, the family still the social unit with a common interest and sympathy. We do not need more women politicians, more women office seekers, more women street orators—which type are appearing in this Suffrage agitation far too frequently for safety."

DON'T BE AFRAID OF THE SUFFRAGISTS!

We feel like reassuring our men friends who feel as the writer of the following letter to *THE REPLY* tells us:

"Some of my men friends say, 'Let the women fight it out among themselves'; others that having refused to sign for the Suffs, they do not care to sign against them. I say one is for or against, and had better let it be known."

What are these men in fear of? Less than 10 per cent of the women of the country? We may be mistaken, but it seems to us that 92 per cent of the women who profess to want to remain at home can make as much trouble for the average man as the small minority, if "mere man" decides, at the polls, to force her out into the political world!

Consider the chances!

DEALERS NOT CERTIFIED

Admission, apparently, should have been charged at Mrs. Belmont's recent auction at Brookholt, her Hepstead (not New York or Newport) estate, where some three thousand dollars' worth of furniture, mostly from the abandoned Suffrage home started some time ago by Mrs. Belmont in New York, was auctioned off to the assembled antique dealers not certified.

BLESS THE LADIES ALL

"Our Congressional committee heard thirty ladies in two hours. That many men would have kept us listening for several days."

"That shows that women can transact public business. But how did they manage to crowd thirty speeches into two hours?"

"Oh, they spoke three and four at a time."

"Hundreds of shrill, ecstatic voices and clever pens," says the *London Times*, "are drumming it into him (the American man) that he has made a mess of government, society, morals, marriage, industry and everything else, and that it is time for him to prepare for a process analogous to spring cleaning in all departments of public and private life."

"The masculine passion for voting," says the *New York Sun*, "has just been reilluminated by the returns from the constitutional convention referendum. Would it pay, even with the consent of these languid patriots, to foist Suffrage upon women whose collective desire for it is as yet mostly inarticulate and conjectural?"

Training the Other Woman's Child

Alice Crowell Hoffman, in The Woman's Home Companion

They all sat round in friendly chat
Discussing mostly this and that,
And a hat.

Until a neighbor's wayward lad
Was seen to act in ways quite bad;
Oh, 'twas sad!

One thought she knew what must be
done
With every child beneath the sun—
She had none.

And ere her yarn had been quite spun
Another's theories were begun—
She had one.

The third was not so sure she knew,
But thus and so she thought she'd do—
She had two.

The next one added, "Let me see;
These things work out so differently."
She had three.

The fifth drew on her wisdom store
And said, "I'd have to think it o'er."
She had four.

And then one sighed, "I don't contrive
Fixt rules for boys, they're too alive."
She had five.

"I know it leaves one in a fix,
This straightening of crooked sticks."
She had six.

And one declared, "There's no rule giv'n,
But do your best and trust to heav'n!"
She had sev'n.

Suffragism, Socialism, Feminism

We ought not to forget what Rabbi Joseph Silverman said in a great sermon preached in Temple Emmanuel in New York City on March 2, when he declared:

"There is no difference between Woman Suffrage, Socialism and the present feminist movement. The one means the

other, and no matter which cause wins first, disaster to matrimony and the home will surely follow. At all hazards we must oppose these movements. They are subversive to the best interests of the child and will destroy all that God and man have built up in the past years."

Only 4 per cent of the registered women in the whole city of Chicago voted on September 9, 1914. Yet we are asked to believe that the other 96 per cent are represented as well by the female politicians and feminists as they are by their own husbands, fathers, sons and brothers.

Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, Supreme Lady President of all the Suffragists, urges us not to believe that all of the women who attend prize-fights in London are militants or just plain, comparatively harmless Suffs. If any women went, the men took them!

Stole the Picture; Changed It

In the current issue of *The Women's Political World*, says the New York *Times*, there appears, without any credit except to the artist, the half-page reproduction of a cartoon that was drawn for the *Times* and is still its property.

Such appropriation, without consent asked or given, constitutes a grievance for this paper, not desperate or as large as could be conceived, but still real. Rather more grave, in some respects, is the fact that before using the cartoon *The Women's Political World* changed the identifying inscriptions on the figures portrayed and so made the picture serve a purpose not intended by either its maker or its owner.

It seems to us that women who rather loudly profess to be aiming at the elevation of the world's morals and manners should not do things of this sort. It creates a bad impression, and, from their own standpoint, is certainly injudicious. It awakens doubt of their sincerity as reformers, or at any rate of their ability to discriminate in more delicate cases between right and wrong.

Of course, the alteration of pictures and making them useful or amusing in new ways is an ancient practice, but the scrupulous do not resort to it without explicit announcement of what they have done.

A Suffrage State Not for Labor

By F. G. R. Gordon

Advocates of woman suffrage are all the time pointing out that once they have "votes for women" they will do things, and especially will labor legislation be enacted for the good of the great working class, etc., etc.

In Utah the ladies have had the ballot for 18 years.

The American Federation of Labor for that state introduced eighteen bills in to the last legislature, that of 1912.

All of these bills were defeated except one and that was amended to such an extent that its labor friends didn't know it when it was passed. This was

the Minimum Wage law; which was amended so that employers may engage girls for as low wages as 75 to 90 cents a day. The other 17 labor bills were defeated. It may not be true to say that they were defeated because of woman suffrage, though the ladies did aid in defeating these bills. But one thing it does prove and that is that woman suffrage in Utah is of no benefit to the working class, or any one else for that matter, and I challenge any partisan of the cause of "votes for women" to show what they have done either for themselves or anyone else in Utah.

Perhaps the Democrats lost a hundred or more Congressional districts because Miss Alice Paul threatened the Democratic candidates so roundly away back in September.

It seems not to be certain that Miss Helen Schloss, sent by Brooklyn Suffs to Colorado to quiet things down out there, ever even hit the trail—as they say out there.

A DOCTOR'S VIEWPOINT

JOHN BESSNER HUBER, A.M.M.D., Author "Consumption and Civilization" (Lippincott's), Etc.

Between the covers of this little volume, is a tempting array of timely topics, dealt with in diverting style, intelligible to the most un-medical, and touching upon many important aspects of health and of general social conditions.

The author wisely avoids "shop language," except where Latin is imperative, and then he translates, not in the patronizing manner of the pedagogue, but as if the interpretation were an afterthought. In other words, he does not fear any loss of professional dignity by descending to the language of the laity. The book will be found to be of equal interest to men and women, for each subject is handled in a way that makes an appeal to the sane and wholesome of either sex. The chapter entitled: "A Twentieth Century Epic," is in itself of sufficient national interest to make the book worth reading. Especially to be recommended to women (suffragists in particular) is "Woman's Seven Ages."

Under "Editorial Effusions" is discussed the advisability of "Spefs" as an adjunct to "Spugs," and here is a suggestion decidedly well worth considering, particularly by those who are anxious to make practical contribution to the welfare of the poor. The man or woman who can secure the largest membership in the Spef Society will be doing quite as much toward reform work as the other numerous philanthropists who infest the East Side homes with their legion "uplift" plans.

THE SALAMANDER

BY OWEN JOHNSON
Bobbs-Merrill Company

That this particular little Salamander is a very enticing young woman there can be no question. That she exists in real life as generally as her creator contends is a matter for conjecture. Any mature child of Uncle Sam who has observed his kind at all, cannot fail to realize that there is a type of girl, grown only on American soil, who will go far, very far in the pursuit of pleasure and still maintain her self-respect to the end.

But only the girl in a book who, as Mr. Johnson describes his heroine, "makes no mistakes" whose "head is never dizzy," whose "mind is in control" and who "knows every minute what she is doing," can safely take the chances that Miss Dore Baxter took.

The inconsistencies in the character of the Salamander are glaring, even though she be a woman. Living a life of constant excitement and late suppers, going voluntarily to a tete-a-tete dinner in a Harlem restaurant with a notorious roue, she still keeps all at arm's length and apparently never raises a doubt in the minds of any of her numerous followers that she is anything more than an innocent child. The innocent child takes jewels from the roue, and the love from another woman's husband, but in the end settles quietly down as Joan to her Darby.

After the first three chapters the interest in the story is well sustained, and dealing as it does with the ephemeral delights of Broadway, is sure to continue to have an innumerable host of readers.

AMERICAN WOMEN IN WAR RELIEF WORK

A letter to THE REPLY from Miss Margaret Doane Gardiner says:

"I am a sort of humble assistant and interpreter under the French Red Cross, but am not actually in hospital."

Knowing Miss Gardiner's rare ability, we are proud that American womanhood should be represented by her.

Another earnest worker for the will of the majority who has been giving her services for relief work at The Hague is Miss Alice Edith Abell, president of the Wage Earners' Anti-Suffrage League, who has just returned to this country.

WHY WOMAN BECOME VINDICTIVE

All history shows that when women are engrossed with public contests and ambitions they become vindictive and implacable. It was the women in the amphitheatre that raised the hand for the death of the gladiator. It was a woman that pressed the reluctant Charles to the massacre of St. Bartholomew. It was women that sat around the guillotine in 1792, and who fired the houses of suspects and slew their inmates during the Commune. It was the Empress Eugenie who called the terrible war of 1870 "my war."

Here is a sample of the clap-trap found in the Suffrage papers:

Children need pure milk and pure food, good schools and playgrounds, sanitary homes and safe streets. To secure these we go to the city hall and the state house where votes and votes only count.

Now, the Suffrage leaders know very well that the best laws for the safeguarding of good schools, pure milk, sanitary homes, etc., are to be found in several states in which only the men vote. But facts will not get the cause of Woman Suffrage very far. Therefore, they need to try the bamboozling game.

The poor Old Man still seems to have his friends. Here is one defending him in the *New York Times*, thus:

It has remained for a woman, before fashionable and curious audiences of her sex at paid admissions, on a dozen or so occasions, to reveal us to her full and indisputable knowledge, as also much more. It seems that we are devoid of all merit, seek no rational or virtuous lines of action, are despotic toward women, like Topsy, we "are desprit wicked, and are glad of it," and hopelessly incorrigible. Through past ages we have been and for ages yet unborn we shall continue to be lassoed by kindly women with ardency of hope for reclamation or other good purposes.

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Every Reader of The Reply

is earnestly requested by the Business Manager of the magazine to send the names and addresses of any and all who might be interested to receive specimen copies.

It doesn't matter how they stand on the female suffrage question, though we would specially desire each reader-correspondent to indicate on the list the probable present position of each person on that important topic.

Please address without fail

The Editor and Publisher
THE REPLY
27 William Street, New York

ONLY A MYTH

For melting pot! Just "man-bought"
 fetters these
 That I have prized? This wedding
 ring I wear
 Was bought by one who saved by slow
 degrees
 The pence it cost, and proudly placed
 it where
 'Twould show the world a trust, not mine
 alone,
 But his as well. No hint of galling
 chains
 It held; and now, though trying years
 have flown,
 Our symbol no less close and dear
 remains.
 My baby's "man-bought" toys! Have
 these been brought
 To mean submission to a tyrant's will?
 Was there with golden cup no loving
 thought
 babes no claim
 The mother's heart with joy for baby's
 sake?
 Has fatherhood no rights? Have
 Is love a myth, existing but in name?
 On gifts that fond and toiling fathers
 Of child? or happy, eager hope to fill
 make?

O. L. REAMY.

THE MERRIE FEMINIST

I met a Merrie Feminist
 A-walking on the Strand;
 Said I to her, "What meaneth all
 This outrage in the land?
 "I pray you, Merrie Feminist,
 Relieve me of my doubt.
 Why do you whack the cosmos so,
 And thrust the world about?"
 The Merrie Feminist looked up
 With pity in her eye.
 "We must do something contrary,"
 She said, "or else we die!
 "And so we cast the cosmic bomb
 And swing the horrid sword.
 We must do *something* contrary
 Or else we're awf'ly bored.
 "So stand aside, I must get on
 To where the vanguards shout—
 Though frankly, sir, I really don't
 Know what it's all about!"

—F. D. B., in the *Evening Sun*.

Man's Cowardice to Woman

A prominent man in Chicago writes:

"We men have made such a botch
 of government, especially municipal
 government with its carelessness,
 extravagance and corruption, that
 we need woman's help. They have
 a voice in the household; why not in
 the state? Many Chicago women
 have registered and are diligently
 studying politics in its manifold
 aspects."

What a confession! We men must call

in women to help us do our work!

It is bad enough—the modern fashion
 of men, over-burdened with business and
 pleasure, taking to themselves mother-
 wives as they grow weaker with the years
 —private nurses to wait on them and
 coddle them; but asking woman to do
 man's distinctive work, the fighting side
 of life (and party politics means fight-
 ing if it means anything), is a most un-
 manly way of facing the duties of life,

Mr. Chicago.

G. D. M.

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